

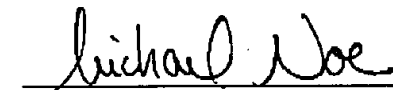
REMARKS

Applicant affirms the election of Invention II and claims 4-7, without traverse. Claims 1-3 are therefore withdrawn from consideration at this time. In accordance with the Examiner's instructions, independent claim 4 has been rewritten with all of the elements of its canceled dependent claim 5, which received favorable treatment in the present office action (page 4).

It is respectfully submitted that claims 4, 6, and 7 are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No extension of time is believed to be required. However, in the event that an extension of time is required, please charge that extension fee and any other required fees to Hitachi Global Storage Technologies' Deposit Account Number 50-2587.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at (512) 542-2135 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael E. Noe, Jr.
Reg. No.: 44,975
BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 969
Austin, Texas 78767-0969
(512) 542-2100
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS